

SOUTH AND MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU

England & Wales - Charity number 1016463

Details

Other names	WEST BRECON CAVE RESCUE TEAM/TIM ACHUB OGOFAU GORLLEWIN BRYCHEINOG
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1993-01-21
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	73 The Maltings Pontprennau Cardiff CF23 8EQ
Phone	02920198390
Email	treasurer@smwcr.org
Website	www.smwcr.org

Activities

Objects: TO RELIEVE SUFFERING AND DISTRESS AMONGST PERSONS OR ANIMALS ENDANGERED BY ACCIDENT OR NATURAL HAZARDS UNDERGROUND BY THE PROVISION, AT THE REQUEST OF THE POLICE, OF SEARCH AND RESCUE FOR ANY PERSONS SO ENDANGERED.

Activities: The object of the Team shall be to relieve suffering and distress amongst persons or animals endangered by accident or natural hazards underground by the provision, at the request of the police, of search and rescue for any persons or animals endangered.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, Amateur Sport
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£21,852	£12,378	-	-
2023-12-31	£16,321	£9,037	-	-
2022-12-31	£40,302	£13,628	-	-
2021-12-31	£63,923	£18,658	-	-
2020-12-31	£37,277	£22,871	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Dunbar	Chair	2019-01-20
Alan Braybrooke		2001-01-20
Daniel Gorst		2026-01-18
Gary Mitchell		2008-01-13
Ian Holmes		2025-01-19
James Waite		2024-01-21
Michal Poreba		2020-01-19
Paul Craddy		2022-01-16
SPENCER TONY DREW FCA DIPPFS		2008-01-13
Stefan Davies		2010-01-24
Sue Goodhead		2015-01-18

Accounts

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2022**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1016463

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

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**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

CHARITY INFORMATION

Holding Trustees

J Carter
S Drew
G Evans
A Garman
B Jopling

Treasurer

S Drew

Bankers

Barclays Bank
Bristol Corn St 9
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Scottish Widows
PO Box 883
Leeds
LS1 9TY

Charity Registration Number

1016463

SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/ TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

The South & Mid Wales Cave Rescue Team (the 'Team') is an unincorporated charity, registered with the charity number 1016463 and is governed by its constitution. The Team was previously called West Brecon Cave Rescue Team/Tim Achub Ogofau Gorllewin Brycheinog and was renamed to its current name in 2010. It became a registered charity in January 1993 and the constitution was last updated on 20th January 2019.

Trustees

The charity is managed and administered by an elected Executive. The members of the Executive will assume the role of Management Trustees (as defined by charitable law). A full list of the Executive can found on the contact us page of our website, www.smwcrct.org.

The charity also currently has five Holding Trustees who are:-

	Date of Appointment in the year	Date of Resignation in the year
J Carter	-	-
S Drew	-	-
G Evans	-	-
A Garman	-	-
B Jopling	-	-

The Holding Trustees are responsible for assets and liabilities of the charity and they are elected by a general meeting and, if appointed, shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed by a resolution of a general meeting.

The Chairman of the Executive is nominated as the person to appoint new Holding Trustees within the meaning of section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925. The Trustees shall be indemnified by the members of the Team for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the discharge of their duties, and provided they act in accordance with the lawful directions of the Executive, the Trustees shall not be held liable for the acts and defaults of the members

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity shall be to relieve suffering and distress amongst persons or animals endangered by accident or natural hazards underground by the provision, at the request of the police, of search and rescue for any persons or animals endangered.

The charity is operated by volunteers to an extremely high standard. The service provided is professional and as such proves a valuable addition to police resources in their response to SAR underground and on land and major disaster. In addition to the above, the team has also been requested to respond to international rescues including the recent Thailand incident. These services are provided to any member of the public, without charge.

Achievements and Performance

During 2022 we have welcomed 14 new members to the Team and a lot of training has been undertaken which has enabled us to comfortably maintain full operational capability throughout the year, responding to all incidents without delay.

Despite a particularly hectic start to the year (in which we attended 3 incidents in the space of one week), 2022 eventually turned out to be a fairly average year in terms of call outs. The Team attended a total of 7 incidents in 2022, involving the rescue of 7 people and 3 dogs.

This does not however mean it has been a quiet year for the Team overall, not least due to the continuing fallout from the record breaking OFD rescue that we carried out in November 2021 (the longest underground stretcher carry in UK history). An incident of that scale inevitably generates a huge amount of follow-on work, including the repair and replacement of equipment, implementation of the many lessons learnt, not to mention a seemingly endless flow of media requests to be dealt with.

The most significant piece of media work was the production of the BBC documentary "The Rescue: 54 Hours Under the Ground" which told the story of the OFD rescue from start to finish via underground reconstructions and interviews with the Team Members who had been involved. A huge number of hours went into the production of this programme, with filming taking place across a period of several weeks and involving many of our Team Members. The programme was aired on BBC Wales in July 2022 and again on national BBC2 (UK-wide) in November 2022. It was seen as a resounding success, of which all Team Members should be very proud. Rarely has Cave Rescue been given such a high profile in the public eye, and this is testament to the fantastic work and professionalism of all involved.

A consequence of the additional work generated by the 2021 OFD rescue is that various other ongoing projects have taken a bit of a hit this year, with some tasks having to be put on hold until quieter times. We have however made good progress in many areas, including making ongoing improvements to our Digital Control equipment and processes as we continue to learn valuable lessons from their use.

Other major projects in the pipeline are the Vehicle Replacement project (the current Landrover Ambulance is due to be retired in the next couple of years), Team Future Planning (looking at options to ensure our base and equipment stores remain fit for purpose as the team develops into the future), and a major IT project to rebuild the team's Callout Database using modern technology that can be integrated with our Digital Control setup. Together these future planning and modernisation projects will set the Team up for many years into the future.

Training wise, we ran several well-attended practices this year, plus additional focussed training days covering specific skills and equipment. Training is integral to our capability as a rescue team, not only as a way of developing and maintaining our skills, but also as a way of getting to know our fellow Team Members so that we can work together most effectively when it comes to a real rescue.

74 members of SMWCRT were presented with Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medals this year, to commemorate 70 years since the late Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne. The medals were awarded to Team Members who had contributed at least 5 years' continuous service to Cave Rescue, and a presentation ceremony was held at Penwyllt for those who could make it, with the medals being presented by Chief Inspector Andy Pitt of Dyfed Powys Police.

There have been further developments concerning the relationship between Mountain Rescue England & Wales (MREW) and Cave Rescue teams this year, and in particular a reduction in the financial support MREW provides for elements of our insurance provision. Significantly we have been advised that MREW can no longer commit to funding our Vehicle Insurance, which will be a hit for us financially. For the time being we retain our 'Associate Member' status within MREW, but we anticipate further changes in the near future.

Independent Examiner

The charity has elected to dispense with an audit of the accounts. Ian Ross, a director in the firm Lowndes Halsden & Partners Limited, is appointed as Independent Examiner of the charity.

Financial Review

Total income for the year was £40,302 (2021: £63,923). Donations have substantially increased from the exposure the team has had since the November Ogof Ffynnon Ddu (OFD) rescue. The final monies have now been received regarding the H Farr bequeath and this has been allocated to the H Farr Reserve.

Total expenses for the year was £13,628 (2021: £18,658). Lower costs than last year due to timing of equipment replacement and gratefully received donations of equipment which has helped to keep the expenses down. The general fund at the year end has increased to £16,817 (2021:£7,571) and the Emergency Reserve has increased which equates to two years minimum estimated annual running costs of the Team.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Spencer Drew FCA, Trustee

.....25/3/.....2023

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

	(~~~~~)	2022	(~~~~~)	2021
	General	Vehicle	Total	Total
	Fund	Fund	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations Received	17,832	-	17,832	5,788
Fundraised Income	1,810	-	1,810	32,301
Grants Received	3,823	-	3,823	1,206
First Aid Course Income	640	-	640	1,325
Bank Interest	19	99	118	3
VAT Refund	2,345	-	2,345	3,297
Expenses reclaimed	404	-	404	-
H Farr bequeth	13,329	-	13,329	20,003
Total	<u>40,203</u>	<u>99</u>	<u>40,302</u>	<u>63,923</u>
Payments				
Equipment Purchased	7,179	-	7,179	11,763
Medical & Food Expenses	349	-	349	418
Vehicle Costs	841	-	841	639
Headquarters & WW Costs	1,724	-	1,724	1,984
Administration Costs	284	-	284	72
First Aid Course Costs	754	-	754	1,543
Rescue Communications Costs	450	-	450	169
Other Course & Meeting Costs	2,047	-	2,047	2,070
Total	<u>13,628</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,628</u>	<u>18,658</u>
Net Receipts/(Payments) Before Transfers For The Year	26,575	99	26,674	45,265
Transfers Between Funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Receipts/(Payments)	26,575	99	26,674	45,265
Total Funds Brought Forward	39,574	50,000	89,574	44,309
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u>66,149</u>	<u>50,099</u>	<u>116,248</u>	<u>89,574</u>

The notes on pages 5 form part of these financial statements.

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

	Note	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	2		-		-
Current Assets					
Debtors			-		-
Cash at bank and in hand		116,248		89,574	
		<u>116,248</u>		<u>89,574</u>	
Creditors					
Amount falling due within one year	3		-		-
		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Total Current Assets/(Liabilities)			116,248		89,574
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>116,248</u>		<u>89,574</u>
Funds of the Charity					
General Fund			16,817		7,571
Vehicle Fund			50,099		50,000
H Farr bequeath Reserve	3		33,332		20,003
Emergency Reserve (2yrs ann exp costs)	3		16,000		12,000
			<u>116,248</u>		<u>89,574</u>

This statement was approved by the Chairman and the Treasurer of the Executive Committee on behalf of the Executive Committee.



Chairman

Dan Thorne

.....25/3/.....2023



Treasurer

Spencer Drew

.....25/3/.....2023

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ian Ross DIP PFS
Independent Examiner

Accounts

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOF AU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2021**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1016463

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

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**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

CHARITY INFORMATION

Holding Trustees

J Carter
S Drew
G Evans
A Garman
B Jopling

Treasurer

S Drew

Bankers

Barclays Bank
Bristol Corn St 9
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Scottish Widows
PO Box 883
Leeds
LS1 9TY

Charity Registration Number

1016463

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

The South & Mid Wales Cave Rescue Team (the 'Team') is an unincorporated charity, registered with the charity number 1016463 and is governed by its constitution. The Team was previously called West Brecon Cave Rescue Team/Tim Achub Ogofau Gorllewin Brycheinog and was renamed to its current name in 2010. It became a registered charity in January 1993 and the constitution was last updated on 17th January 2021.

Trustees

The charity is managed and administered by an elected Executive. The members of the Executive will assume the role of Management Trustees (as defined by charitable law). A full list of the Executive can found on the contact us page of our website, www.smwcrct.org.

The charity also currently has five Holding Trustees who are:-

	Date of Appointment in the year	Date of Resignation in the year
J Carter	-	-
S Drew	-	-
G Evans	-	-
A Garman	-	-
B Jopling	-	-

The Holding Trustees are responsible for assets and liabilities of the charity and they are elected by a general meeting and, if appointed, shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed by a resolution of a general meeting.

The Chairman of the Executive is nominated as the person to appoint new Holding Trustees within the meaning of section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925. The Trustees shall be indemnified by the members of the Team for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the discharge of their duties, and provided they act in accordance with the lawful directions of the Executive, the Trustees shall not be held liable for the acts and defaults of the members

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity shall be to relieve suffering and distress amongst persons or animals endangered by accident or natural hazards underground by the provision, at the request of the police, of search and rescue for any persons or animals endangered.

The charity is operated by volunteers to an extremely high standard. The service provided is professional and as such proves a valuable addition to police resources in their response to SAR underground and on land and major disaster. In addition to the above, the team has also been requested to respond to international rescues including the 2018 Thailand incident. These services are provided to any member of the public, without charge.

Achievements and Performance

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has continued to have significant impacts on the Team throughout this year. Although the rollout of vaccines has allowed the world - including the sport of caving - to return to some semblance of normality, the Team has still been required to mitigate against the risk of spreading the virus by following the various protocols that were introduced in 2020. Despite the impacts of the virus, we have comfortably maintained full operational capability throughout the year, responding to all incidents without delay.

It has been another relatively busy year in terms of call outs. SMWCRT has attended a total of 9 incidents in 2021, and has been involved in the rescue of 5 people, 2 dogs, 1 pony and 1 search for a missing person.

Of particular note was the rescue of a severely injured caver from the Ogof Ffynnon Ddu (OFD) cave system on 6-8 November 2021. This was the longest underground stretcher carry in UK history, covering a distance of approx. 3.5km, with a total duration of 54 hours. The scale of this rescue was unprecedented in the UK, and clearly beyond the resources of any single rescue team. SMWCRT called in 9 other Cave Rescue teams from around the UK to assist us, with a total of more than 300 volunteers taking part. The operation was a resounding success.

The OFD rescue also drew major media attention, and the coverage was overwhelmingly positive. Rarely has cave rescue been shed in such a good light, so prominent in eyes of the general public, and this is testament to the fantastic work and professionalism from all involved.

The OFD rescue also highlighted the great progress achieved by the British Cave Rescue Council (BCRC) in recent years in bringing together the different Cave Rescue teams from around the UK. The publicity around the OFD rescue has also resulted in a flurry of new members joining the Team. This injection of new blood should be welcomed, as it brings with it fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and skills.

Training wise, we had several well-attended practices this year, as well as running additional training courses for First Aid and Mountain Navigation. Training is integral to our capability as a rescue team, not only as a way of developing and maintaining our skills, but also as a way of getting to know our fellow Team Members so that we can work together most effectively when it comes to a real rescue.

Over the course of the year we have continued to make good progress in our projects to modernise the Team and its equipment. Our new Digital Control setup, new stretchers and digital radios (all purchased through our 2020 Modernisation Programme) are all now fully operational, and have been used in anger very successfully at recent incidents. Improvements to this equipment and technology continue to be made as we learn valuable lessons from their use on an ongoing basis.

We undertook another major fundraising project this year, raising a total of £5,562 which has allowed us to fund the purchase of additional comms equipment (£3,162), upgraded search kits (£1,400) and new drills, batteries and chisels (£1,000). On top of this, we also held a very successful fundraising auction, raising in excess of £1,000.

Our next major modernisation project in the pipeline is to rebuild the Team's Call Out Database using modern technology that can be integrated with the Digital Control setup and other IT systems. Work has begun, and will be progressed further over the coming year.

The late Helen Farr, who sadly passed away in 2020, bequeathed a very generous sum of money to SMWCRT in her will. At the time of writing the exact amount is still to be confirmed, however it is known to be highly significant. We will ensure that this money is earmarked for a suitable project that will benefit the Team for many years into the future, providing a fitting legacy to Helen and her generosity.

Independent Examiner

The charity has elected to dispense with an audit of the accounts. Ian Ross, a director in the firm Lowndes Halsden & Partners Limited, has been reappointed as Independent Examiner of the charity.

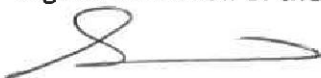
Financial Review

Total income for the year was £63,920 (2020: £37,277). This year we received some of the monies due from the H Farr bequeath and donations and fundraising income was boosted due to the OFD incident mentioned above. The monies received from the H Farr bequeath has been allocated to the H Farr Reserve.

Total expenses for the year was £18,658 (2020: £22,871). Lower costs than last year due to most of the 2020 grant award monies were used in 2020. The General Fund at the year end has decreased to £7,571 but the Emergency Reserve has been created within the year to help in the better management of resources and to increase the financial stability of the charity in the future. The monies held in this reserve will equate to two years minimum estimated annual running costs of the Team.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Spencer Drew FCA, Trustee

5TH MARCH2022

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

	(XXXXXXXXXX	2021	XXXXXXXXXX)	2020
	General	Vehicle	Total	Total
	Fund	Fund	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations Received	5,788	-	5,788	2,546
Fundraised Income	32,301	-	32,301	15,267
Grants Received	1,206	-	1,206	18,921
First Aid Course Income	1,325	-	1,325	540
Bank Interest	-	3	3	3
VAT Refund	3,297	-	3,297	-
H Farr bequeath	20,003	-	20,003	-
Total	63,920	3	63,923	37,277
Payments				
Equipment Purchased	11,763	-	11,763	9,795
Medical & Food Expenses	418	-	418	1,105
Vehicle Costs	639	-	639	1,122
Headquarters & WW Costs	1,984	-	1,984	3,057
Administration Costs	72	-	72	643
First Aid Course Costs	1,543	-	1,543	1,028
Rescue Communications Costs	169	-	169	56
Other Course & Meeting Costs	2,070	-	2,070	6,065
Total	18,658	-	18,658	22,871
Net Receipts/(Payments) Before Transfers For The Year	45,262	3	45,265	14,406
Transfers Between Funds	(20,971)	20,971	-	-
Net Receipts/(Payments)	24,291	20,974	45,265	14,406
Total Funds Brought Forward	15,283	29,026	44,309	29,903
Total Funds Carried Forward	39,574	50,000	89,574	44,309

The notes on pages 7 form part of these financial statements.

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

	Note	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	2		-		-
Current Assets					
Debtors			-		-
Cash at bank and in hand		89,574		44,309	
		<u>89,574</u>		<u>44,309</u>	
Creditors					
Amount falling due within one year	3		-		-
			<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
Total Current Assets/(Liabilities)			89,574		44,309
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>89,574</u>		<u>44,309</u>
Funds of the Charity					
General Fund			7,571		15,283
Vehicle Fund			50,000		29,026
H Farr bequeath Reserve	3		20,003		-
Emergency Reserve (2yrs ann exp costs)	3		12,000		-
			<u>89,574</u>		<u>44,309</u>

This statement was approved by the Chairman and the Treasurer of the Executive Committee on behalf of the Executive Committee.

Chairman
Tom Ford

5 March 2022

Treasurer
Spencer Drew

5th March 2022

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2021**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the provisions contained in section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 as amended and in accordance with the provisions contained in the guidance for smaller charities issued by the Charity Commission.

2 Tangible Assets

The trustees consider that the market value of the ambulance, is not exceeding £50,000 in aggregate.

3 Liabilities agreed by the Team prior to the year end but paid post year end

The General Fund at the year end is £7,571. £12,000 has been allocated to the Emergency Reserve which covers the expected minimum running costs of the Team for two years. The H Farr Reserve includes all the monies received from the H Farr bequeath at the year end.

4 Trustee Emoluments

No trustees received remuneration or expenses for their roles as trustees during the current or prior period.

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ian Ross DIP PFS
Independent Examiner

Accounts

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2020**

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1016463

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

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**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

CHARITY INFORMATION

Holding Trustees

J Carter
S Drew
G Evans
A Garman
B Jopling

Treasurer

S Drew

Bankers

Barclays Bank
Bristol Corn St 9
Leicester
LE87 2BB

Scottish Widows
PO Box 883
Leeds
LS1 9TY

Charity Registration Number

1016463

SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/ TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

The South & Mid Wales Cave Rescue Team (the 'Team') is an unincorporated charity, registered with the charity number 1016463 and is governed by its constitution. The Team was previously called West Brecon Cave Rescue Team/Tim Achub Ogofau Gorllewin Brycheinog and was renamed to its current name in 2010. It became a registered charity in January 1993 and the constitution was last updated on 20th January 2019.

Trustees

The charity is managed and administered by an elected Executive. The members of the Executive will assume the role of Management Trustees (as defined by charitable law). A full list of the Executive can found on the contact us page of our website, www.smwcr.org.

The charity also currently has five Holding Trustees who are:-

	Date of Appointment in the year	Date of Resignation in the year
J Carter	-	-
S Drew	-	-
G Evans	-	-
A Garman	-	-
B Jopling	-	-

The Holding Trustees are responsible for assets and liabilities of the charity and they are elected by a general meeting and, if appointed, shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed by a resolution of a general meeting.

The Chairman of the Executive is nominated as the person to appoint new Holding Trustees within the meaning of section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925. The Trustees shall be indemnified by the members of the Team for all expenses and other liabilities properly incurred by them in the discharge of their duties, and provided they act in accordance with the lawful directions of the Executive, the Trustees shall not be held liable for the acts and defaults of the members

Objectives and Activities

The object of the charity shall be to relieve suffering and distress amongst persons or animals endangered by accident or natural hazards underground by the provision, at the request of the police, of search and rescue for any persons or animals endangered.

The charity is operated by volunteers to an extremely high standard. The service provided is professional and as such proves a valuable addition to police resources in their response to SAR underground and on land and major disaster. In addition to the above, the team has also been requested to respond to international rescues including the recent Thailand incident. These services are provided to any member of the public, without charge.

Achievements and Performance

The rapid global spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has had significant and wide-ranging impacts on the Team throughout this year. Although the virus effectively shut down the sport of caving for large parts of the year, we still needed to maintain an effective Cave Rescue service. Despite the Team's call out list being temporarily depleted at times (due to Team Members either 'self-isolating', or 'shielding' in line with Government rules and guidance), I'm pleased to report that we have comfortably maintained full operational capability throughout the year.

To mitigate against the risks of spreading the virus within and outside of the Team, under the guidance of the British Cave Rescue Council (BCRC) we introduced a range of new protocols and personal protective equipment (PPE) to be used during rescues and training exercises. I would like to acknowledge the huge amount of work that has been put in by members of the Executive committee in ensuring these procedures and equipment were in place, and continually reviewed and maintained during what has been an ever-evolving situation.

COVID-19 has also brought significant financial implications for the Team, as grants that would normally have been secured were instead diverted to COVID-19 causes. This left a shortfall in the Team's finances at a time when we were due to pay for several major equipment purchases under our 2020 Modernisation Programme. To make up for this short-fall we launched our biggest ever fundraising campaign, successfully raising a total of over £17,000 which includes a £2,000 grant. I would like to extend my thanks to all who helped with raising such an incredible sum of money during such uncertain times.

Away from COVID-19 it has also been a busy year for several other reasons.

Perhaps surprisingly, this has not been a quiet year for incidents. Although we have had no major callouts requiring large-scale deployment of team members, at the time of writing SMWCRT has attended a total of 10 incidents, and has been involved in the rescue of 12 people, 2 dogs, 2 sheep and 2 searches for missing persons.

Mountain Rescue England & Wales (MREW) has now completed its restructuring as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and these changes have presented us with a number of challenges going forward which we will be working with British Cave Rescue Council (BCRC) to resolve.

Earlier this year we completed a major review of the Team structure and call out lists, reducing the team size from more than 200 down to 130. This was necessary for a number of reasons, including logistical reasons (ensuring the team size remains manageable), external pressures relating to insurance/MREW, and importantly to ensure all Team Members can be kept up to date with regular training.

We continue to make good progress in our ongoing projects to modernise the Team and its equipment. As part of our 2020 Modernisation Programme we recently received a set of new and improved stretchers, and also new digital radios that will allow us to communicate more effectively both within the Team and with other external agencies. We are also making good progress on our Mobile Digital Control project, which will bring rescue control up to date with modern digital technology and tools and in a package that can be easily transported and set up at the scene of a rescue.

The Team has continued to develop and maintain its stock of advanced rescue equipment, including a high specification ambulance. The headquarters and forward base greatly enhance operational control and educational and training areas as well as providing increased equipment storage and garaging space and administrative and meeting facilities. In the last ten years, SMWRCT has attended 68 incidents including both people and animals.

Independent Examiner

The charity has elected to dispense with an audit of the accounts. Ian Ross, a director in the firm Lowndes Halsden & Partners Limited, is appointed as Independent Examiner of the charity.

Financial Review

Total income for the year was £37,274 (2019: £15,548). This year has seen general donations decline which we anticipated due to Covid 19 but due to the hard work within the Team, fundraising and grant awards received have risen. A large amount of effort goes into securing these grants which enables us to train and purchase items that we wouldn't otherwise be able to afford. The VAT refund is still being reviewed by HMRC and should amount to approximately £3,200 which we will receive in early 2021.

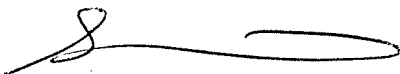
Total expenses for the year was £22,871 (2019: £9,320). Higher costs than usual exist this year which are directly related to the spending of the grant award monies plus the additional costs on the Team due to Covid 19.

The general fund at the year end has increased to £15,283. £14,040 of this amount has already been agreed and allocated by the Team prior to the year end to be spent on the Digital Control project, the Digital Radio project, the stretcher upgrade project, several specific courses and other outstanding liabilities. These allocated funds are a lot higher than usual due to the 2020 projects and courses being delayed due to Covid 19.

During the year the Team accepted a bequeath, the total sum of which cannot yet be determined but is understood to be a minimum of £20,000. At the year end, no bequeath amount has yet been received by the Team but it is estimated to be obtained during the second quarter of 2021.

The Trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Spencer Drew FCA, Trustee

.....26/02/.....2021

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

	(~~~~~)	2020	(~~~~~)	2019
	General	Vehicle	Total	Total
	Fund	Fund	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Donations Received	2,546	-	2,546	5,312
Fundraised Income	15,267	-	15,267	1,389
Grants Received	18,921	-	18,921	4,281
First Aid Course Income	540	-	540	1,640
Bank Interest	-	3	3	2
VAT Refund	-	-	-	2,224
Expenses Recovered	-	-	-	700
Total	<u>37,274</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>37,277</u>	<u>15,548</u>
Payments				
Equipment Purchased	9,795	-	9,795	2,029
Medical & Food Expenses	1,105	-	1,105	1,938
Vehicle Costs	1,122	-	1,122	805
Headquarters & WW Costs	3,057	-	3,057	1,967
Administration Costs	643	-	643	245
First Aid Course Costs	1,028	-	1,028	1,749
Rescue Communications Costs	56	-	56	147
Other Course & Meeting Costs	<u>6,065</u>	-	<u>6,065</u>	<u>440</u>
Total	<u>22,871</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,871</u>	<u>9,320</u>
Net Receipts/(Payments) Before Transfers For The Year	14,403	3	14,406	6,228
Transfers Between Funds	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Receipts/(Payments)	11,403	3,003	14,406	6,228
Total Funds Brought Forward	3,880	26,023	29,903	23,675
Total Funds Carried Forward	<u><u>15,283</u></u>	<u><u>29,026</u></u>	<u><u>44,309</u></u>	<u><u>29,903</u></u>


The notes on pages 5 form part of these financial statements.

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

	Note	2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	2		-		-
Current Assets					
Debtors			-		-
Cash at bank and in hand		44,309		29,903	
		<u>44,309</u>		<u>29,903</u>	
Creditors					
Amount falling due within one year	3		-		-
		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>	
Total Current Assets/(Liabilities)			44,309		29,903
Total Net Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>44,309</u>		<u>29,903</u>
Funds of the Charity					
General Fund			15,283		3,880
Vehicle Fund			29,026		26,023
			<u>44,309</u>		<u>29,903</u>

This statement was approved by the Chairman and the Treasurer of the Executive Committee on behalf of the Executive Committee.



Chairman
Tom Fford
.....26/02/.....2021



Treasurer
Spencer Drew
.....26/2/.....2021

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the provisions contained in section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 as amended and in accordance with the provisions contained in the guidance for smaller charities issued by the Charity Commission.

2 Tangible Assets

The trustees consider that the market value of the ambulances, is not exceeding £50,000 in aggregate.

3 Liabilities agreed by the Team prior to the year end but paid post year end

The General Fund at the year end is £15,283. £14,040 of this amount has already been agreed and allocated by the Team prior to the year end to be spent on the Digital Control project, the stretcher upgrade project, several specific courses and other outstanding liabilities. These allocated funds are a lot higher than usual due to the projects and courses being delayed due to Covid 19.

4 Trustee Emoluments

No trustees received remuneration or expenses for their roles as trustees during the current or prior period.

**SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM/
TIM ACHUB OGOFAU DE A CHANOLBARTH CYMRU**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SOUTH & MID WALES CAVE RESCUE TEAM**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

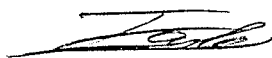
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Ian Ross DIP PFS
Independent Examiner

31/03/2021